

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)

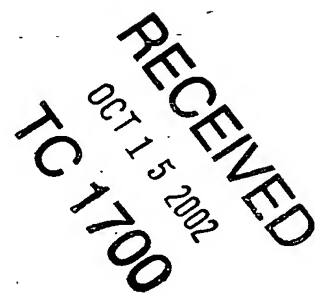
OKANO et al.)

Application Number: 10/018,430)

Filed: December 20, 2001)

For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE)
PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0050)



Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

CERTIFICATION

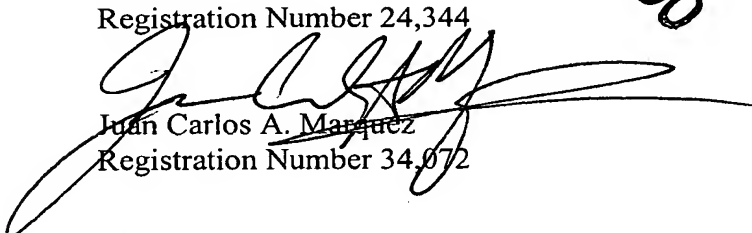
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after three months of the filing date but prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action of the above-captioned U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

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